

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (Previously Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A valve assembly comprising:

- a pole and coil assembly operable to induce a magnetic flux when energized;
- a plunger having a proximal end and a distal end, said plunger movable between an open position and a closed position in response to said pole and coil assembly being energized;
- an orifice member having an inlet, an outlet and a first sealing surface; [[and]]
- a first guide spring having a second sealing surface, said first guide spring located between said plunger and said orifice member and secured to said plunger distal end, wherein said second sealing surface sealingly engages said first sealing surface when said plunger is in said closed position whereby fluid flow between said inlet and said outlet is prevented, wherein the first sealing surface and the second sealing surface are substantially parallel when said plunger is in said open position, and wherein said first and second sealing surfaces are substantially co-planar when said plunger is in said closed position;and
a second guide spring located between said pole and coil assembly and said plunger proximal end, said second guide spring supporting said plunger radially and preventing radial movement of said plunger when said plunger is being pulled towards said pole during operation of said valve assembly.

12. (Previously Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The valve assembly of claim 11 wherein said plunger is moved to said open position when said pole and coil assembly is energized.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The valve assembly of claim [[14]] 11 wherein said second guide spring biases said plunger in said closed position.

16. (Currently Amended) The valve assembly of claim [[14]] 11 wherein said second guide spring is secured to said plunger proximal end.

17. (Currently Amended) A valve assembly comprising:
a pole and coil assembly operable to induce a magnetic flux when energized;
a plunger having a proximal end and a distal end, said plunger movable between an open position and a closed position in response to said pole and coil assembly being energized;
an orifice member having an inlet, an outlet and a first sealing surface;
a valve body having an inlet and an outlet, wherein said valve body inlet is in fluid communication with said orifice member inlet and said valve body outlet is in fluid communication with said orifice member outlet; [[and]]
a guide spring having a second sealing surface, said guide spring located between said plunger and said orifice member and secured to said plunger distal end, wherein said second sealing surface sealingly engages said first sealing surface when said plunger is in said closed position whereby fluid flow between said orifice member inlet and said orifice member outlet is prevented, wherein the first sealing surface and the second sealing surface are substantially parallel when said plunger is in said open position, and wherein said first and second sealing surfaces are substantially co-planar when said plunger is in said closed position; and
a second guide spring located between said pole and coil assembly and said plunger proximal end, said second guide spring supporting said plunger radially and preventing radial movement of said plunger when said plunger is being pulled towards said pole during operation of said valve assembly.

18. (Previously Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The valve assembly of claim 17 wherein said plunger is moved to said open position when said pole and coil assembly is energized.

20. (Previously Presented) The valve assembly of claim 17 wherein said guide spring biases said plunger in said closed position.